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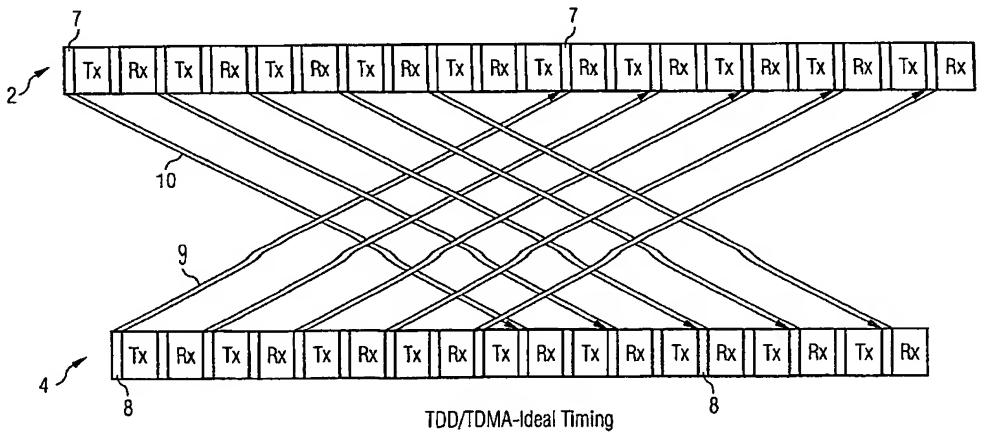
(54) Title: A METHOD OF COMMUNICATION IN A TIME DIVISION DUPLEX (TDD) SATELLITE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method of communication in a time division duplex (TDD) satellite communication system comprising at least one satellite (2) and a plurality of terrestrial terminals (4) comprises allocating time division multiple access (TDMA) time slots (1, 3) for transmission between the satellite and any one of the plurality of terminals, such that for any given terminal, transmit time slots for transmission to the satellite and receive time slots (5, 6) for reception from the satellite are separated in time. An assigned time delay between transmit and receive time slots at the any one terminal is small compared with a round trip propagation delay and if the transmit time slot for one terminal causes a transmission from that one terminal to be received at another terminal overlapped in time with a receive time slot allocated for the other terminal, then those two terminals are spaced apart in distance, sufficiently, such that interference between the two terminals is minimised.

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